

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A clip, comprising:

a first clipping arm and a second clipping arm capable of pressing and holding therebetween a clipped object constituted of a flexible hollow member, thereby forming an independent, separate space in the clipped object,

a latching portion having a male member ~~disposed on a first end of the first clipping arm,~~ and a female member to engage with the male member, ~~the female member being disposed on the first end of the second clipping arm,~~ and

a latching releaser ~~connected to either the male member or the female member to which latching-releasing force is applied in an outward direction,~~ to release engagement between the male member and the female member, wherein

(1) either the first clipping arm or the second clipping arm has an elastic member at a second end,

(2) the latching releaser is connected to the elastic member at a connecting point and extending toward the first end along the outer side of the first or second clipping arm,

(3) either the male member or the female member is disposed on a tip end of an elastic member having a supporting point so that the male member or the female member is movable to a disengaged position to release the latching portion, the other of the male member or the female member being disposed on the other of first clipping arm and the second clipping arm, and

(4) the elastic member has a fulcrum disposed further from the first end than the connecting point.

2-4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously presented) The clip according to claim 1, wherein the latching releaser and the latching portion are integrally molded.

6. (Previously presented) The clip according to claim 5, wherein the latching releaser, the latching portion and the first and the second clipping arms are integrally molded.

7. (Currently amended) The clip according to claim 1, wherein the latching releaser is a band shaped elastic piece whose tip end is bound to the elastic member of the latching [[means]] portion.

8. (Previously presented) The clip according to claim 7, wherein the latching releaser is comprised of a pull-tab integrally molded with the band shaped elastic piece bound to the elastic member of the latching means.

9. (Previously presented) The clip according to claim 1, wherein the latching releaser is comprised of a thread-like article or a thread-like article bound to an elastic piece of the latching portion.

10. (Currently amended) The clip according to claim 1, wherein the first clipping arm and the second clipping arm are pivotally connected at a ~~second~~ first end.

11. (Currently amended) The clip according to claim 1, wherein the first clipping arm and the second clipping arm are pivotally connected by a hinge portion integrally molded with at least one of the first clipping arm or the second clipping arm at the ~~second~~ first end.

12. (Previously Presented) The clip according to claim 1, wherein at least the first clipping arm and the second clipping arm are comprised of a resin made by mixing a glass fiber into a polyoxymethylene resin.